A

COLLECTION

OF

PRAYERS

FOR

FAMILIES.

PUBLISHED

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FAMILY PRAYERS.

SUNDAY MORNING.

ALMIGHTY and Eternal GOD, we desire to praise thy holy name, for so graciously raising us up, in soundness of body and mind, to see the light of this day.

We bless thee in behalf of all thy creatures; for "the eye of all look unto thee, and thou givest them their meat in due season." But above all, we acknowledge thy inestimable benefits bestowed upon mankind in Christ Jesus. We thank thee for his miraculous birth, for his most holy life, his bitter agony and bloody death, for his glorious resurrection on this day, his ascension into heaven, his triumph over all the powers of darkness, and his sitting at thy right hand for evermore.

O God, how great was thy love to the sinful sons of men, to give "thy only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on him, might not perish, but have everlasting life!" How great was that love, which hath committed our souls to one so "mighty to save!" Which hath chosen us to be thy sons and heirs together with Christ Jesus, and set such an high priest over thy house and family, to make intercession for us, to pour thy blessings upon us, and send forth his angels "to minister unto them who shall be heirs of salvation!" O the riches of thy grace, in sending the Holy Ghost, to make us "abound in hope," that we shall one day rise from the dead, and after our short labours here, rest with thee in thy eternal glory.

O that we could begin this day in devout meditations, in joy unspeakable, and in blessing and praising thee, who hast given us such good hope and everlasting consolation! Lift up our minds above all these little things below, which are apt to

diſtract our thoughts; and keep them above, till our hearts are fully bent to ſeek thee every day, in the way wherein Jeſus hath gone before us, though it ſhould be with the loſs of all we here poſſeſs.

We are aſhamed, O Lord, to think that ever we have diſobeyed thee, who haſt redeemed us by the precious blood of thine own Son. O that we may agree with thy will in all things for the time to come! And that all the powers of our ſouls and bodies may be wholly dedicated to thy ſervice! We deſire unfeignedly that all the thoughts and deſigns of our minds, all the affections and tempers of our hearts, and all the actions of our life may be pure, holy, and unreproveable in thy ſight.

"Search us, O Lord, and prove us; try out our reins and our heart. Look well if there be any way of wickedneſs in us, and lead us in the way everlaſting. Let thy favour be better to us than life itſelf: that ſo in all things we may approve our hearts before thee, and feel the ſenſe of thy acceptance of us, giving us a joy which the world cannot give.

Make it our delight to praiſe thee, to call to mind thy loving-kindneſs, and to offer the ſacrifice of thankſgiving. Help us to take "heed to ourſelves, leſt at any time our hearts be overcharged with ſurfeiting or drunkenneſs, or the cares of this life: to have our converſation without covetouſneſs, and to be content with ſuch things as we have: to poſſeſs our bodies in ſanctification and honour: to love our neighbour as ourſelves, and as we would that others ſhould do unto us, to do even ſo to them: to live peaceably, as much as lieth in us, with all men: to put on the ornament of a meek and quiet ſpirit: and to take thoſe who have ſpoken in the name of our Lord, for an example of ſuffering affliction, and of patience; and when we ſuffer as Chriſtians, not to be aſhamed, but to glorify thee our God on this behalf."

And accept, good Lord, of all the praiſes of all thy people met together this day. O that "thy ways were known upon all the earth, and thy ſaving health among all nations!" And that all Chriſtian

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kings, eſpecially, may be filled with thy Holy Spirit, and be faithful ſubjects of the Lord Jeſus, "the King of kings, and Lord of lords." O that thy "prieſts may be clothed with righteouſneſs, and thy ſaints rejoice and ſing:" that all who are in diſtreſs may truſt in thee, the "health of their countenance and their God." O Lord, hear us, and make thy face to ſhine upon thy ſervants, that we may "enter into thy gates with thankſgiving, and into thy courts with praiſe; that we may be thankful unto thee, and bleſs thy name. Amen, for Jeſus Chriſt's ſake, in whoſe words we conclude our imperfect prayers, ſaying, "Our Father, &c.

SUNDAY EVENING.

O THOU "High and Holy One that inhabiteſt eternity," thou art to be feared and loved by all thy ſervants. "All thy works praiſe thee, O God;" and we eſpecially give thanks unto thee, for thy marvellous love in Chriſt Jeſus, by whom thou haſt "reconciled the world to thyſelf." Thou haſt "given us exceeding great and precious promiſes." Thou haſt ſealed them with his blood. Thou haſt confirmed them by his reſurrection and aſcenſion, and the coming of the Holy Ghoſt. We thank thee, that thou haſt given us ſo many happy opportunities of knowing "the truth as it is in Jeſus," even the myſtery which was hid from ages and generations, but is now revealed to them that believe.

Bleſſed be thy goodneſs for that great conſolation, and for the aſſiſtance of the Holy Spirit. Bleſſed be thy goodneſs, that we have felt it ſo often in our heart, inſpiring us with holy thoughts, filling us with love, and joy, and comfortable expectations of "the glory that ſhall be revealed." We thank thee, that thou haſt ſuffered us this day to attend on thee in thy public ſervice, and that we have begun in any meaſure that eternal "reſt which remaineth for the people of God."

We offer up again our ſouls and bodies to thee, to be governed, not by our own will, but thine.

O let it be ever the eaſe and joy of our heart, to be under the conduct of thy unerring wiſdom, to follow thy counſels, and to be ruled in all things by thy holy will. And let us never diſtruſt thy abundant kindneſs and tender care over us, whatſoever it is thou wouldſt have us to do or to ſuffer in this world.

O God, purify our hearts, that we may entirely love thee, and rejoice in being beloved of thee; that we may confide in thee, and abſolutely reſign ourſelves to thee, and be filled with conſtant devotion toward thee. O that we may never ſink into a baſe love of any thing here below, nor be oppreſſed with the cares of this life; but aſſiſt us to "abhor that which is evil, and cleave to that which is good." Let us "uſe this world as not abuſing it." Give us true humility of ſpirit, that we may "not think of ourſelves more highly than we ought to think." Keep us from being "wiſe in our own conceits. Let our moderation be known to all men." Make us "kindly affectioned one to another;" to delight in doing good; to "ſhew all meekneſs to all men; to render unto all their dues, tribute to whom tribute is due, cuſtom to whom cuſtom, fear to whom fear, honour to whom honour;" and to "owe no man any thing, but to love one another." Make us ſo happy, that we may be able to "love our enemies, to bleſs thoſe that curſe us, to do good to them that hate us; to rejoice with them that do rejoice, and to weep with them that weep. Compoſe our ſpirits to a quiet and ſteady dependence on thy good Providence, that we may "take no thought for our life, nor be careful for any thing, but by prayer and ſupplication, with thankſgiving, ſtill make known our requeſts to thee our God." And help us to "pray always and not faint; in every thing to give thanks, and offer up the ſacrifice of praiſe continually; to rejoice in hope of thy glory: to poſſeſs our ſouls in patience; and to learn in whatſoever ſtate we are therewith to be content." Make us "know both how to be abaſed, and how to abound; every where, and in all things," inſtruct us both "to abound and ſuffer want,"

want," being enabled " to do all things through Chriſt who ſtrengtheneth us."

O that the light of all Chriſtians did ſo " ſhine before men," that others might " glorify thee our Father which art in heaven; and ſend forth thy light and thy truth [into all the dark corners of the earth, that] all kings may fall down before thee, and all nations do thee ſervice!" Bleſs theſe kingdoms, and give us grace at length to " bring forth fruits meet for repentance." O Lord, ſave the king, and " eſtabliſh his throne in righteouſneſs." Proſper the endeavours of all thoſe who faithfully feed thy people, and increaſe the number of them. O that the ſeed which hath been ſown this day, may take deep root in all our hearts: that being " not forgetful hearers, but doers of the word, we may be bleſſed in our deeds." Help us in all this week following, to " ſet a watch before our mouth, and keep the door of our lips." And " let not our hearts incline to any evil thing, or to practiſe wicked works with men that work iniquity." But " as we have received how we ought to walk and to pleaſe thee, ſo we may abound more and more."

Protect us we beſeech thee, and all our friends every where this night, and awaken in the morning thoſe good thoughts in our hearts, that the " words of our Saviour may abide in us, and we in him;" who hath taught us when we pray, to ſay, " Our Father," &c.

MONDAY MORNING.

WE humble ourſelves, O Lord of heaven and earth, before thy glorious Majeſty. We acknowledge thy eternal power, wiſdom, goodneſs, and truth: and deſire to render thee moſt unfeigned thanks, for all the benefits which thou poureſt upon us. But above all for thine ineſtimable love, in the redemption of the world, by our Lord Jeſus Chriſt.

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We implore thy tender mercies, in the forgiveneſs of all our ſins, whereby we have offended either in thought, word, or deed. We deſire to be truly ſorry for all our miſdoings, and utterly to renounce whatſoever is contrary to thy will. We deſire to devote our whole man, body, ſoul and ſpirit to thee. And as thou doſt inſpire us with theſe deſires, ſo accompany them always with thy grace, that we may every day, with our whole hearts, give ourſelves up to thy ſervice.

We deſire to be ſo holy and undefiled as our bleſſed Maſter was. And we truſt thou wilt fulfil all the gracious promiſes which he hath made to us. Let them be dearer to us than thouſands of gold and ſilver; let them be the comfort and joy of our hearts. We aſk nothing, but that it may be unto thy ſervants according to his word.

Thou haſt mercifully kept us the laſt night: bleſſed be thy continued goodneſs. Receive us likewiſe into thy protection this day. Guide and aſſiſt us in all our thoughts, words and actions. Make us willing to do and ſuffer what thou pleaſeſt; waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, unto eternal life.

Bleſſed be thy goodneſs, which haſt not ſuffered us to wander, without inſtruction, after the fooliſh deſires of our own hearts; but haſt clearly ſhewn us where our happineſs lies. O may we receive with all thankfulneſs, thoſe holy words which teach us the bleſſedneſs of poverty of ſpirit, of mourning after thee, of meekneſs, and gentleneſs, of hungering and thirſting after righteouſneſs, of mercifulneſs, and purity of heart, of doing good unto all, and patient ſuffering for doing the will of our Lord Chriſt.

O may we always be in the number of thoſe bleſſed ſouls! May we ever feel ourſelves happy in having the kingdom of God within us, in the comforts of the Holy One, in being filled with all the fruits of righteouſneſs, in being made the children of the Higheſt, and above all, in ſeeing thee our God. Let us abound in thy love more and more; and in continual prayers and praiſes to thee,

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the Father of mercies, and God of all conſolation, in Jeſus Chriſt our Lord.

And we deſire, thou knoweſt, the good of all mankind, eſpecially of all Chriſtian people; that they may all walk worthy of the goſpel, and live together in unity and Chriſtian love. For which end we pray that all Chriſtian kings, princes, and governors, may be wiſe, pious, juſt, and merciful, endeavouring that all their ſubjects may lead peaceful lives in all godlineſs and honeſty: and more particularly, that our Sovereign King George may be bleſſed with a religious, quiet, long, and proſperous reign, and that all in authority under him may ſeek in their ſeveral ſtations to right the oppreſſed, to comfort the afflicted, to provide for the poor and needy, and to relieve all thoſe that are in any miſery. Bleſs all thoſe that watch over our ſouls; ſucceed their labours, and give us grace to follow their godly admonitions, and "to eſteem them very highly in love for their works' ſake." The ſame bleſſings we crave for our friends, relations, and acquaintance, that we may all live in perfect love and peace together, and rejoice together at the great day of the Lord Jeſus; in whoſe holy words we ſum up all our wants:

"Our Father," &c.

MONDAY EVENING.

ALMIGHTY and moſt merciful FATHER, in whom we live, move, and have our being: to whoſe tender compaſſions we owe our ſafety the day that is paſt, together with all the comforts of this life, and the hopes of that which is to come. We praiſe thee, O Lord, we bow ourſelves before thee, acknowledging we have nothing but what we receive from thee, "unto thee do we give thanks," O God, who daily poureſt thy benefits upon us.

Bleſſed be thy goodneſs for our health, for our food and raiment, for our peace and ſafety, for the love of our friends, for all our bleſſings in this life; and our deſire to attain that life which is immortal. Bleſſed be thy love, for that we feel in our hearts

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any motion towards thee. Behold, O Lord, we preſent ourſelves before thee, to be inſpired with ſuch a vigorous ſenſe of thy love, as may put us forward with the greater earneſtneſs, zeal, and diligence in all our duty. Renew in us we beſeech, a lively image of thee, in all righteouſneſs, purity, mercy, faithfulneſs, and truth. O that Jeſus, the hope of glory, may be formed in us, in all humility, meekneſs, patience, and an abſolute ſurrender of our ſouls and bodies to thy holy will; that "we may not live, but Chriſt may live in us;" that every one of us may ſay, "The life I now live in the fleſh, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himſelf for me."

Let the remembrance of his love, who made himſelf an offering for our ſins, be ever dear and precious to us. Let it continually move us to offer up ourſelves to thee, to do thy will, as our bleſſed Maſter did. May we place an entire confidence in thee, and ſtill truſt ourſelves with thee, who haſt not "ſpared thine own Son, but freely given him up for us all." May we humbly accept of whatſoever thou ſendeſt us, and in "every thing give thanks." Surely thou "wilt never leave us nor forſake us." O guide us ſafe through all the changes of this life, in an unchangeable love to thee, and a lively ſenſe of thy love to us, till we come to live with thee, and enjoy thee for ever.

And now that we are going to lay ourſelves down to ſleep, take us into thy gracious protection, and ſettle our ſpirits in ſuch quiet and delightful thoughts of the glory where our Lord Jeſus lives, that we may deſire to be diſſolved and to go to him who died for us, that whether we wake or ſleep, we may live together with him.

To thy bleſſing we recommend all mankind, high and low, rich and poor, that they may all faithfully ſerve thee, and contentedly enjoy whatſoever is needful for them. And eſpecially, we beſeech thee, that the courſe of this world may be ſo peaceably ordered by thy governance, that thy church may joyfully ſerve thee in all godly quietneſs. We leave all we have with thee, eſpecially our friends,

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and thoſe who are dear unto us, deſiring that when we are dead and gone, they may lift up their ſouls in this manner unto thee, and teach thoſe that come after, to praiſe, love and obey thee. And if we awake again in the morning, may we praiſe thee again with joyful lips, and ſtill offer ourſelves a more acceptable ſacrifice to thee, through Jeſus Chriſt, in whoſe words we beſeech thee to hear us, according to the full ſenſe and meaning thereof, "Our Father," &c.

TUESDAY MORNING.

O MOST great and mighty LORD, the poſſeſſor of heaven and earth, all the angels rejoice in bleſſing and praiſing thee, the Father of ſpirits: for "thou haſt created all things, and in wiſdom haſt thou made all," and ſpread thy tender mercies over all thy works. We deſire thankfully to acknowledge thy bounty to us, among the reſt of thy creatures, and thy particular grace and favour to us, in Jeſus Chriſt, our merciful Redeemer. O give us a deep ſenſe of that love which gave him to die for us, that he might be "the author of eternal ſalvation to all them that obey him."

And haſt thou not ſaid, that thou wilt "give thy Holy Spirit to them that aſk it?" O Father of mercies, let it be unto us according to thy word. Cheriſh whatever thou haſt already given us, which is acceptable in thy ſight. And ſince at the beſt we are unprofitable ſervants, and can do no more than it is our duty to do, enable us to do every thing which thou haſt commanded us, heartily with goodwill and true love to thy ſervice.

O that we may ever approach thee with delight, and feel it the joy of our heart, to think of thee, to praiſe thee, to give thee thanks, and to offer ourſelves with abſolute reſignation to thee. O that mercy may alway pleaſe us, as it pleaſeth thee! That we may be ſtrictly juſt and righteous! May cheerfully paſs by injuries, freely deny ourſelves what-

whatever is not for thy glory; willingly ſubmit to thy fatherly corrections, and perform the duties of our ſeveral relations with ſingleneſs of heart. Render us ſo mindful of the great love of our Lord, that we may be zealouſly concerned for his glory, and uſe our utmoſt diligence to promote his religion in the world, delighting to commemorate his death and paſſion, making a joyful ſacrifice of our ſouls and bodies to him, and earneſtly deſiring that his kingdom may come over all the earth.

Fulfil, moſt merciful Lord, all our petitions; and as thou haſt graciouſly protected us this night, ſo accompany us all this day with thy bleſſing, that we may pleaſe thee in body and ſoul, and be ſafe under thy defence, who art very nigh to all thoſe that call upon thee.

And O that all men may be awakened into a lively and thankful ſenſe of all thy benefits. Stir up eſpecially the minds of all Chriſtian people, to follow "the truth as it is in Jeſus, and exerciſe themſelves to have a conſcience void of offence towards God and towards man." Bleſs theſe kingdoms, and endue our Sovereign with ſuch excellent wiſdom and holy zeal, that we may ſee many good days under his government. O that true religion, juſtice, mercy, brotherly-kindneſs, and all things elſe that are praiſe-worthy, may ſo flouriſh among us, that we may enjoy the bleſſing of peace and plenty, and there may be no complaining in our ſtreets.

We recommend to thee all our friends and neighbours, all the poor, the ſick, and the afflicted, deſiring thoſe mercies for them, which we would aſk for ourſelves, were we in their condition. "O God, whoſe never-failing providence ordereth all things both in heaven and earth, keep them and us, we beſeech thee, from all hurtful things, and give us thoſe things which are profitable for us, according to thine abundant mercy in our Lord Jeſus;" in whoſe words we conclude our ſupplications unto thee, ſaying, "Our Father," &c.

TUESDAY

TUESDAY EVENING.

ALMIGHTY and everlaſting GOD, the ſovereign Lord of all creatures in heaven and earth, we acknowledge that our beings, and all the comforts of them, depend on thee, the fountain of all good. We have nothing but what is owing entirely to thy free and bounteous love, O moſt bleſſed Redeemer.

To thee therefore be given by us, and by all creatures, whom thou haſt made to know how great and good thou art, all honour and praiſe, all love and obedience, as long as we have any being. "It is but meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we ſhould at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee," O Lord, and devoutly reſign both ſoul and body to thee to be abſolutely governed and ruled according to thy holy will.

Further, we pray thee, increaſe every good deſire which we feel already in our hearts; let us always live as becomes thy creatures, as becomes the diſciples of Jeſus Chriſt. Incline us to be more and more in love with thy laws, till they are written upon our hearts. Stir up our wills to *love them exceedingly*, and to cleave unto them as our very life.

O that we might heartily ſurrender our wills to thine! that we may unchangeably cleave unto it, with the greateſt and moſt entire affection to all thy commands. O that there may abide for ever in us, ſuch a ſtrong and powerful ſenſe of thy mighty love towards us in Chriſt Jeſus, as may conſtrain us freely and willingly to pleaſe thee, in the conſtant exerciſe of righteouſneſs and mercy, temperance and charity, meekneſs and patience, truth and fidelity; together with ſuch an humble, contented, and peaceable ſpirit, as may adorn the religion of our Lord and Maſter. Yea, let it ever be the joy of our hearts to be righteous, as thou art righteous: to be merciful, as thou our heavenly Father art merciful: to be "holy as thou who haſt called us art holy, in all manner of converſation;"

to be endued with thy divine wiſdom, and to reſemble thee in faithfulneſs and truth. O that the example of our bleſſed Saviour may be always dear unto us, that we may cheerfully follow him in every holy temper, and delight to do thy will, O God. Let theſe deſires, which thou haſt given us, never die or languiſh in our hearts, but be kept always alive, always in their vigour and force, by the perpetual inſpirations of the Holy Ghoſt.

Accept likewiſe our thanks for thy merciful preſervation of us all this day. We are bold again to commit ourſelves unto thee this night. Defend us from all the powers of darkneſs; and raiſe up our ſpirits, together with our bodies, in the morning, to ſuch a vigorous ſenſe of thy continual goodneſs as may provoke us all the day long to an unwearied diligence in well-doing.

And the ſame mercies that we beg for ourſelves, we deſire for the reſt of mankind; eſpecially for thoſe who are called by the name of Chriſt. O that every one of theſe may do his duty with fidelity! That kings may be tender-hearted, as the fathers of their countries; and all their ſubjects may be dutiful and obedient to them at their children: that the paſtors of thy church may feed their flocks with true wiſdom and underſtanding, and all the people may ſubmit unto them, and follow their godly counſels: that the rich and mighty may have compaſſion on the poor and miſerable; and all ſuch diſtreſſed people may bleſs the rich, and rejoice in the proſperity of thoſe that are above them: Give to huſbands and wives, parents and children, maſters and ſervants, the grace to behave themſelves ſo in their ſeveral relations, that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour in all things, and may receive of him a crown of glory: in whoſe holy name and words, we continue to beſeech thy grace and mercy towards us, and all thy people every where, ſaying,

"Our Father," &c.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

O GOD, bleſſed for ever, we thank and praiſe thee for all thy benefits, for the comforts of this life, and our hopes of our everlaſting ſalvation in the life to come. We deſire to have a lively ſenſe of thy love always poſſeſſing our heart, that may ſtill conſtrain us to love thee, to obey thee, to truſt in thee, to be content with the portion thy love allots unto us, and to rejoice even in the midſt of the troubles of this life.

Thou "haſt delivered thine own Son for us all. How ſhalt thou not with him alſo freely give us all things?" We depend upon thee eſpecially for the grace of thy Holy Spirit. O that we may feel it perpetually bearing us up, by the ſtrength of our moſt holy faith, above all the temptations that may at any time aſſault us! That we may keep ourſelves unſpotted from the world, and may ſtill cleave to thee in righteouſneſs, in lowlineſs, purity of heart, yea, the whole mind that was in Chriſt.

Let thy mighty power enable us to do our duty towards thee, and towards all men, with care, and diligence, and zeal, and perſeverance unto the end. Help us to be meek and gentle in our converſation, prudent and diſcreet in ordering our affairs, obſervant of thy fatherly providence in every thing that befals us, thankful for thy benefits, patient under thy chaſtiſements, and readily diſpoſed for every good word and work. Preſerve in us a conſtant remembrance of thy all-ſeeing eye: of thy ineſtimable love in Jeſus Chriſt, whereof thou haſt given us ſo many pledges, and of the great account we muſt give to him at the day of his appearing; that ſo we may continue ſtedfaſt and unmoveable, and be abundant in the work of the Lord, knowing that our labour ſhall not be in vain in the Lord.

Deliver us we beſeech thee, from worldly cares and fooliſh deſires; from vain hopes and cauſeleſs fears; and ſo diſpoſe our hearts, that death itſelf may not be dreadful to us, but we may welcome it

with a cheerful countenance, when and howſoever it ſhall approach.

O that our hearts may be ſo firmly eſtabliſhed in grace, that nothing may affright us or ſhake our conſtancy, but we may rather chuſe to die than to diſhonour him who died for us! We reſign ourſelves to thy wiſdom and goodneſs, who knoweſt what is beſt for us; believing thou wilt "never ſuffer us to be tempted above what we are able, and wilt with the temptation alſo make a way to eſcape, that we may be able to bear it."

We commend unto thee all mankind; eſpecially thy church, and more particularly theſe kingdoms, that we may all believe in our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, and be zealous of good works. Bleſs our ſovereign, his counſellors, his miniſters, and all employed in public buſineſs, whether ſpiritual or civil, that whatſoever they do may be for thy glory, and the public good. Be gracious unto all that are near and dear unto us, and keep us all in thy fear and love. Guide us, good Lord, and govern us by the ſame ſpirit, that we may be ſo united to thee here, as not to be divided when thou art pleaſed to call us hence, but may together enter into thy glory, to dwell with thee in love and joy that ſhall never die, through Jeſus Chriſt our bleſſed Lord and Saviour, who hath taught us when we pray, to ſay, "Our Father," &c.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

O LORD, "how manifold are thy works! in wiſdom haſt thou made them all. The day is thine; the night alſo is thine; thou haſt prepared the light and the ſun." We render thee thanks for all the benefits which thou haſt beſtowed on the whole world: eſpecially on us, whom thou haſt called to the knowledge of thy grace in Chriſt Jeſus. It is a marvellous love wherewith thou haſt loved us. Thou haſt not dealt ſo with all people: and as for thy great and precious promiſes, they have not known them.

Accept,

Accept, O merciful Father, the good reſolutions which thou haſt inſpired us with by thy Spirit. Strengthen them, we beſeech thee, with thy continued grace, that no ſudden deſires, vehement inclinations, ineffectual purpoſes, no, nor partial performances, may lead us into a falſe opinion of ourſelves: but that we may bring forth actually, and with a conſtant ſpirit, all the fruits of righteouſneſs, which are by Chriſt Jeſus.

Deny not, O Lord, the deſires of thoſe ſouls, who would offer up themſelves entirely to thy ſervice. But preſerve us always in ſerioufneſs of ſpirit. Let the ſenſe of our weakneſs make us watchful and diligent, the ſenſe of our former negligence, excite us to be fervent in ſpirit, and the goodneſs of thy commands render us fruitful and abundant in the work of the Lord. O that all our pious affections may be turned into actions of piety and holineſs: and may all our actions be ſpirited with zeal, and all our zeal regulated with prudence, and our prudence void of all guile, and joined with perfect integrity of heart: that adorning our moſt holy faith here, by an upright, charitable, and diſcreet converſation, we may receive praiſe in the day of the Lord, and be numbered with thy ſaints in glory everlaſting.

O lift up our affections to things above, that we may have perfect contentment in well-doing and patient ſuffering, and the good hope we have of being eternally beloved of thee, may make us rejoice evermore. Free us from the cares of the world, from diſtruſt of thy good providence, from repining at any thing that befals us; and enable us in every thing to give thanks, believing that all things are ordered wiſely and ſhall work together for good.

Into thy hands we commend both our ſouls and bodies, which thou haſt mercifully preſerved this day. We truſt in thy watchful providence, who "giveſt thy angels charge over us, who art about our beds, and about our paths, and ſpieſt out all our thoughts." O continue theſe holy thoughts and deſires in us till we fall aſleep, that we may receive

the light of the morning, if thou prolongeſt our lives, with a new joy in thee, and thankful affection to thee.

We deſire likewiſe, O God, the good of the whole world. Pity the follies of mankind; deliver them from their miſeries, and forgive thou all their ſins. Hear the groans of every parr of the creation, that is yet "ſubject to the bondage," and bring them all "into the glorious liberty of the ſons of God." Hear the daily prayers of the Catholic Church. Free her from all foul and dividing errors: let the truth as it is in Jeſus prevail, and "peace be in all the borders." O that all Chriſtian governors may "ſeek peace, and enſue it!" Make thy miniſters the meſſengers of peace, and diſpoſe all who are called Chriſtians, to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Enlighten the minds of all Jews, Turks, and Infidels. Strengthen all thy faithful ſervants. Bring back them that wander out of the way: raiſe up thoſe that are fallen: confirm thoſe that ſtand, and grant them ſteadily to perſevere in faith, love, and obedience. Relieve and comfort all that are in diſtreſs. Let the earth bring forth her fruit in due ſeaſon; and let all honeſt and induſtrious people be bleſt in their labour.

Remember all thoſe who have done good unto us, and reward them ſeven-fold in their boſom. Grant forgiveneſs and charity to all our enemies; and continue good-will among all our neighbours. Support the ſick with faith and patience: aſſiſt thoſe who are leaving this world. Receive the ſouls which thou haſt redeemed with thy Son's precious blood, and ſanctified by the Holy Ghoſt. And give us all a glorious reſurrection and eternal life. "Our Father," &c.

THURSDAY MORNING.

O LORD, the God of our ſalvation, "thou art the hope of all the ends of the earth." Upon thee the eyes of all do wait; for thou giveſt unto

unto all life and breath and all things. Thou ſtill watcheſt over us for good: thou daily reneweſt to us our lives and thy mercies: and thou haſt given us the aſſurance of thy word, that if we commit our affairs to thee, if we acknowledge thee in all our ways, thou wilt direct our paths. We deſire, O Lord, to be ſtill under thy conduct and fatherly protection. We beg the guidance and help of thy good Spirit, to chuſe our inheritance for us, and to diſpoſe of us, and all that concerns us, to the glory of thy name.

O Lord, withdraw not thy tender mercies from us, nor the comforts of thy preſence! Never puniſh our paſt ſins, by giving us over to the power of our ſins; but pardon all our ſins, and ſave us from all our iniquities. And grant us, O good God, the continual ſenſe of thy gracious acceptance of us, in the Son of thy love, that our ſouls may bleſs thee, and "all that is within us may praiſe thy holy name."

And O that we may find the joy of the Lord to be our ſtrength; to defend us from all our ſins, and to make us more zealous of every good work: that herein we may "exerciſe ourſelves, to have a conſcience void of offence both towards God and towards men." O help us to "walk circumſpectly, not as fools, but as wiſe, carefully redeeming the time," improving all thoſe ſeaſons and means of grace which thou art pleaſed to put into our hands. Sanctify to us all our employments in the world: our croſſes alſo and our comforts; all the eſtates we go through, and all the events that befal us, till, through the merits of thy Son, and the multitude of thy mercies, we are conducted ſafe, to "be ever with the Lord."

Thou "haſt laid help for us upon one that is mighty;" that is "able to ſave unto the uttermoſt all thoſe that come unto God through him." Thro' him thou haſt encouraged us to come boldly, that we "may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." Help us, we beſeech thee, to demean ourſelves as becomes the children of God, the redeemed of the Lord, the members of Chriſt. Put

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thy Spirit within us, cauſing us to walk in thy ſtatutes, and to keep thy judgments, and do them. Yea, let it be our meat and drink to do thy will, and to run the way of thy commandments.

O gracious Father, keep us we pray thee, this day in thy fear and favour, and teach us, in all our thoughts, words, and works, to live to thy glory. If thou guide us not, we go aſtray: if thou uphold us not, we fall. O let thy good providence be our defence, and thy good Spirit our guide, and counſellor, and ſupporter in all our ways. And grant that we may do always what is acceptable in thy ſight, through Jeſus Chriſt our Lord: in whoſe holy name and words we cloſe theſe our imperfect prayers: "Our Father," &c.

Let thy grace, O Lord Jeſus; thy love, O heavenly Father; and thy comfortable fellowſhip, O bleſſed Spirit, be with us, and all that deſire our prayers, this day and for evermore.

THURSDAY EVENING.

O LORD our GOD, thy glory is above all our thoughts, and thy mercy is over all thy works. We are ſtill living monuments of thy mercy. For thou haſt not cut us off in our ſins, but ſtill giveſt us a good hope and ſtrong conſolation through grace. Thou haſt ſent thy only Son into the world, that whoſoever believeth in him, ſhould not periſh in his ſins, but have everlaſting life. O Lord, we believe; help our unbelief; and give us the true "repentance towards God, and faith in our Lord Jeſus Chriſt," that we may be in the number of thoſe who indeed repent and "believe to the ſaving of the ſoul. Being juſtified by faith, let us have peace with God, through our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, let us rejoice in him, through whom we have now redemtion in his blood: and let the love of God be ſhed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghoſt which is given unto us."

And as we pray that thou wilt be to us a Father of mercies and a God of conſolations, ſo that thou wilt make us "followers of God as dear children,"

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ever jealous over our hearts, and watchful over our ways; continually fearing to offend, and endeavouring to pleaſe thee. Thou knoweſt, O Lord, all our temptations, and the ſin that doth ſo eaſily beſet us. Thou knoweſt the devices of the enemy, and the deceitfulneſs of our own hearts. We pray thee, good Lord, that thou wilt arm us with the whole armour of God. Uphold us with thy free Spirit, and watch over us for good evermore.

Let our ſupplications alſo aſcend before thee, for the whole race of mankind. Send thy word unto all the ends of the earth, and let it be the ſavour of life unto all that hear it. Be gracious to this our native land. O do thou rule all our rulers, counſel all our counſellors, teach all our teachers, and order all the public affairs to thy glory. Turn from us the judgments which we feel or fear; continue thy bleſſings to our ſouls and bodies. And notwithſtanding all our provocations, be thou ſtill our God, and let us be thy people. Have compaſſion on all the children of affliction, and ſanctify thy fatherly corrections to them. Be gracious to all our friends and neighbours. Reward our benefactors. Bleſs our relations with the beſt of thy bleſſings, with thy fear and love. Preſerve us from our enemies, and reconcile them both to us and to thyſelf. O that all the habitations of Chriſtians may be houſes of prayer! and be thou eſpecially kind to the ſeveral families where thy bleſſed name is called upon. Let thy bleſſings reſt upon us of this family. Bleſs all our preſent eſtates to us, and fit us all for whatſoever thou ſhalt be pleaſed to call us to. O teach us "how to want and how to abound." In every condition ſecure our hearts to thyſelf, and make us ever to approve ourſelves ſincere and faithful in thy ſervice.

And now, O Father of mercies, be pleaſed to accept our evening ſacrifice of praiſe and thankſgiving. O that thou wouldeſt imprint and preſerve upon our hearts, a lively ſenſe of all thy kindneſs to us, that our ſouls may bleſs thee, and all that is within us may praiſe thy holy name. Yea, let us

give thee thanks from the ground of the heart, and praiſe our God while we have our being: For all thy patience with us, thy care over us, and thy continual mercy to us, bleſſed be thy name, O Lord God, our heavenly Father. And unto Thee, with the Son of thy love, and the Spirit of grace, be all thanks and praiſe now and for evermore.

FRIDAY MORNING.

O LORD GOD, "merciful gracious, and long-ſuffering, and abundant in goodneſs and truth; thou keepeſt mercy for thouſands; thou pardoneſt iniquity, and tranſgreſſion, and ſin. How excellent is thy loving-kindneſs, O God! the children of men ſhall put their truſt under the ſhadow of thy wings!" And therefore do we ſtill look up to that bountiful hand, from whence we have received all our good things. O Lord our God, be favourable unto us, as thou uſeſt to be unto thoſe that love thy name! O look not upon the ſin of our nature, nor the ſins of our hearts and lives, which are more than we can remember, and greater than we can expreſs. It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not conſumed, becauſe thy compaſſions fail not. But thou lookeſt upon the face of thine anointed, who was manifeſted to take away our ſins: by whom it is that we have acceſs to the majeſty on high.

O God, be merciful to us miſerable ſinners, for his ſake whom "thou haſt exalted to be a Prince and a Saviour, to give repentance unto thy people and forgiveneſs of ſins." Be merciful, O God, be merciful unto our ſouls which have greatly ſinned againſt thee. O heal our backſlidings: renew us to repentance: eſtabliſh our hearts in thy fear and love; and eſtabliſh our goings in thy way, that our foot-ſteps ſlip not. Let us waver no more: let us never more be weary or faint in our minds. Let us not revolt from thee, or turn to folly again, after thou haſt ſpoken peace to our ſouls; but may we

go on conquering and to conquer all the enemies of our ſouls, and all the hinderances of our ſalvation, till thou haſt bruiſed Satan under our feet.

Seeing there is in Chriſt Jeſus an infinite fulneſs of all that we can want or wiſh, O that we may all receive of his fulneſs, grace upon grace; grace to pardon our ſins and ſubdue our iniquities: to juſtify our perſons, and to ſanctify our ſouls: and to complete that holy change, that renewal of our hearts, whereby we may be transformed into that bleſſed image wherein thou didſt create us. O make us all meet to be partakers of the inheritance of thy ſaints in light.

And teach us, O God, to uſe this world, without abuſing it; and to receive the things needful for the body, without loſing our part in thy love, which is better than life itſelf. Whatever we have of this world, O may we have the ſame with thy leave and love; ſanctified to us by the word of God and by prayer; and by the right improvement thereof to thy glory. And whatever we want of worldly things, leave us not deſtitute of the "things that accompany ſalvation; but adorn our ſouls with all ſuch graces of thy Holy Spirit, that we may adorn the doctrine of our God and Saviour in all things.

And now that thou haſt renewed our lives and thy mercies to us this morning, help us to renew our deſires and reſolutions, and endeavours to live in the obedience to thy holy will. O reſtrain us from the ſins into which we are moſt prone to fall, and quicken us to the duties we are moſt averſe to perform. And grant that we may think and ſpeak, and will and do, the things becoming the children of our heavenly Father: and ſo find the ſtrong conſolation of thy gracious acceptance in Jeſus Chriſt our Saviour: who, when we pray, hath taught us to ſay, "Our Father," &c."

FRIDAY EVENING.

O LORD, thou waſt before all, thou art above all, and thy years ſhall not fail. Thou art the ſearchers of our hearts. Thou knoweſt the dulneſs

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and hardneſs, the vanity and deceitfulneſs of them. We were born ſinners, and ſo we have lived. We have added ſin to ſin. We have abuſed thy great and manifold mercies, tempted thy patience, and deſpiſed thy goodneſs. And juſtly mighteſt thou have caſt us into outer darkneſs, where is wailing and gnaſhing of teeth.

But of thy loving-kindneſſes there is no number. Thou ſtill calleſt us to return to thee: and "whoſoever cometh unto thee, thou wilt in no wiſe caſt out." O meet us with thy heavenly grace, that we may be able to come to thee. Be thou graciouſly pleaſed to ſtretch forth thy hand, and looſe the chains wherewith our ſouls are entangled. O free us from every weight of ſin, from every yoke of bondage. O help us to feel, and bewail, and forſake all our ſins. And let us never want the comfortable aſſurance of thy forgiveneſs of them, thy acceptance of us, and thy love to us, in the bleſſed Son of thy eternal love.

Thou art never weary, O Lord, of doing us good. Let us never be weary of doing thee ſervice. But as thou haſt pleaſure in the proſperity of thy ſervants, ſo let us take pleaſure in the ſervice of our Lord, and abound in thy work, and in thy love and praiſe evermore. O fill up all that is wanting, reform whatever is amiſs in us, and perfect the thing that concerneth us. Let the witneſs of thy pardoning love ever abide in all our hearts. O ſpeak into every one of our ſouls the peace which paſſeth all underſtanding: and let us always look upon thee as our Father, reconciled to us in Jeſus Chriſt.

In his great name we cry unto thee in the behalf of the whole race of mankind. O that all the ends of the earth may ſee the ſalvation of our God. Continue thy mercies to this ſinful land; teach us at length to know thy will concerning us: and O! turn thou all our hearts unto thee, as the heart of one man. Bleſs the king; O Lord, prolong his days and proſper his government; make him always a "terror to evil doers, and a praiſe to them that do well." And grant unto all magiſtrates and miniſters

niſters of thy word, a continual ſupply of all the needful gifts and graces of thy Holy Spirit. Be thou a father to the fatherleſs, a huſband to the widow, a refuge to the oppreſſed, a phyſician to the ſick, a helper to the friendleſs, a God of conſolation to the ſorrowful and diſtreſſed.—Bleſs to us whatſoever thou art pleaſed to allot us, and every thing that befals us. May all work together for our good, to build us up in thy grace, and to help us on to thy glory.

Continue thy fatherly care over us this night. O preſerve and defend, and bleſs and keep us, that no evil may befal us, "nor any plague come nigh our dwelling." Give us comfortable ſleep to ſtrengthen us for thy ſervice. And whenever thou calleſt us to the ſleep of death, let us cheerfully reſign our ſpirits into thy hands, through the riches of thy grace, and the worthineſs of thy Son, in whoſe merits and mediation alone we put our truſt. And for all that he hath done and ſuffered for us, to thy name, O bleſſed God of our ſalvation, be the praiſe, and honour, and glory, given by us and all thy people, now and for evermore.

"Our Father," &c.

SATURDAY MORNING.

WE preſent ourſelves before thee, O Lord, our God, to pay our tribute of prayer and thankſgiving; deſiring thee mercifully to accept us and our ſervices, at the hands of Jeſus Chriſt. In his great name we come to beg thy pardon and peace, the increaſe of thy grace, and tokens of thy love. For we are not worthy the leaſt of thy mercies. But worthy is the Lamb that was ſlain to take away the ſin of the world, for whoſe ſake thou wilt give us all things. For he hath fulfilled thoſe holy laws which we had broken, and perfectly ſatisfied for our offences. And in him thou art a God gracious and merciful to thoſe who deſerve nothing but puniſhment.

O merciful Father, regard not what we have done *againſt thee:* but what our bleſſed Saviour hath done *for us.* Regard not what we have made ourſelves; but what he is made unto us of thee our God. O that Chriſt may be to every one of our ſouls, "wiſdom and righteouſneſs, ſanctification and redemption!" That his precious *blood* may "cleanſe us from all our ſins:" and that thy Holy Spirit may renew and ſanctify our ſouls. May he crucify our fleſh with its affections and luſts, and mortify all our members which are upon earth. O let not "ſin reign in our mortal bodies, that we ſhould obey it in the luſts thereof: but being made free from ſin, let us be the ſervants of righteouſneſs." Let us approve our hearts to thee, and let all our ways be pleaſing in thy ſight.

O teach us to know thee, O God, and Jeſus Chriſt whom thou haſt ſent: and enable us to do thy will on earth, as it is done in heaven. Give us to fear thee and to love thee, to truſt and delight in thee, and to cleave to thee with full purpoſe of heart, that no temptations may draw or drive us from thee; but that all thy diſpenſations to us, and thy dealings with us may be the meſſengers of thy love to our ſouls. Quicken us, O Lord, in our dulneſs, that we may not ſerve thee in a lifeleſs, and liſtleſs manner; but may abound in thy work, and be fervent in ſpirit, ſerving the Lord. And make us faithful in all our intercourſe with our neighbour, that we may be ready to do good and bear evil; that we may be juſt and kind, merciful and meek, peaceable and patient, ſober and temperate, humble and ſelf-denying, inoffenſive and uſeful in the world; that ſo glorifying thee here, we may be glorified with thee in thy heavenly kingdom.

Day by day we magnify thee, O Lord, who makeſt every day an addition to thy mercies. We bleſs thee for preſerving us the night paſt, and for the reſt thou gaveſt us therein. O cauſe us to hear thy loving-kindneſs in the morning; for in thee do we truſt. Cauſe us to know the way wherein we ſhall go, for we lift up our ſouls unto thee. O take not thy Holy Spirit from us; but direct all

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our ways to pleaſe thee our God. Help us to ſee thy power, to own thy preſence, to admire thy wiſdom, and to love thy goodneſs in all thy creatures; and by all, draw our hearts ſtill nearer to thee. Such the mercy and grace we beg for ourſelves, and all ours and thine every where, in our great Mediator's bleſſed words: "Our Father," &c.

SATURDAY EVENING.

O LORD, our God, thou art infinitely good, and thou haſt ſhewed us what is good. Thou ſendeſt out thy light and thy truth that they may guide us, and makeſt plain thy way before our face. Thou giveſt us many opportunities and advantages to quicken and further us in thy ſervice. We have "line upon line, and precept upon precept;" thy meſſengers early and late, to open and apply thy word, to call and warn, to direct and exhort us with all long-ſuffering. But how little have we improved all the precious talents, which thou haſt put into our hands! O Lord, thou mighteſt juſtly take away the goſpel of the kingdom from us, and give it unto other people, who would bring forth the fruits thereof. Becauſe thou haſt called and we refuſed, thou haſt ſtretched forth thy hands and we have not regarded, thou mighteſt leave us to our own perverſeneſs and impenitence, till our iniquities become our ruin.

But, O Lord God, enter not thus into judgment with thy ſervants. Pardon, all our contempt of thy word, and our not profiting thereby. And help us for the time to come, better to improve the bleſſed opportunities ſet before us. "As the rain deſcends from heaven and returns not thither, but waters the earth and maketh it fruitful; ſo let not thy word return unto thee void, but proſper in the work whereunto thou ſendeſt it." O make it effectual to build us all up in the true fear and love of God, and in the knowledge and faith of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt.

O gracious God, may thy Spirit cauſe thy word to work thoroughly and ſucceſsfully in all our hearts. And as we daily "receive, how we ought to walk

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and to pleaſe thee our God;" ſo help as to "walk worthy of the Lord unto all well pleaſing;" increaſing in the knowledge and love of thee, abounding more and more in every good which is pleaſing in thy ſight, through Jeſus Chriſt.

At his hands, O Lord our God, we beg thy gracious acceptance of our humble praiſe and thankſgiving, for all thy bleſſings, ſpiritual and temporal, ſo freely conferred upon us. We praiſe thee for all the comforts and conveniencies of this life, and for all the means and hopes of a better: particularly for what we have received this day; the food of our ſouls ſet before us; the word of ſalvation ſounding in our ears, and the Spirit of God ſtriving with our hearts. O withdraw not thy tender mercies from us, but ſtill continue thy accuſtomed goodneſs, and increaſe thy grace and heavenly bleſſings upon us, and rejoice over us to do us good.

In mercy paſs by all which thy moſt pure and holy eyes have ſeen amiſs in us this day. Forgive the iniquities of our holy things: overlook all our ſins and failings, through our great Mediator and Redeemer, who ever lives at thy right hand to make interceſſion for us. And for Jeſus Chriſt, and all which thou art pleaſed to give us together with him, "not unto us, O Lord, but unto thy name" be all the praiſe, and honour, and glory humbly aſcribed by us, and all thy church now and for evermore. "Our Father," &c.

FINIS.